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S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 RANGOON 000837

SIPDIS

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TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [BM](#) [NLD](#)

SUBJECT: BURMESE MPS-ELECT APPEAL TO SYG ANNAN, PLAN TO
ANNOUNCE PARALLEL GOVERNMENT

Classified By: COM CARMEN MARTINEZ FOR REASONS 1.5 (B and D).

1. (C) Seventy Burmese MPs-elect (elected in the junta-annulled 1990 election) have written to UN Secretary General Kofi Annan informing him that they have asked Senior General Than Shwe to release the political prisoners and implement the UN resolutions regarding restoring democracy in Burma. They also ask the SYG to bring the plight of Burma to the notice of the Security Council "for necessary action." Post has forwarded the signed letter, text of which is included in para 3 below.

2. (S) Many of the MPs-elect signed the letter after meeting at the funeral last month of an influential senior monk who "died suddenly." The monk provided assistance, food, and lodging to MPs-elect when they were in Rangoon, and occasionally sheltered pro-democracy activists from the authorities. Over 100 MPs-elect were reportedly willing to sign the letter, but they decided 35 should not. The MPs-elect, we are told by a normally reliable source, intend to declare a parallel government in the next month or two, and wanted at least some members to be free if the seventy who signed get arrested.

3. (SBU) Text of the letter follows. Signed original pouched to EAP/BLCTV July 10th.

Begin Text:

Dear Mr. Secretary-General

Subject: The Disgraceful Situation in Burma after the Crisis at Da-Ba-Yin Township

In the evening of May 30, 2003 some members of the National League for Democracy (NLD) including U Tin Oo, Vice Chairman and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, General Secretary while traveling on an organizational tour were savagely attacked by a group of thugs between Kyi village and Da Ba Yin town in Sagaing Division resulting in several deaths and injuring hundreds of NLD members. The government has not clarified nor provided details of the above event.

Moreover, it is learnt that U Tin Oo, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the youths who accompanied them on the journey were seriously harmed and are also held under detention without any legal ground.

Hence the undersigned, the representatives who were duly elected at the Multiparty Election held in 1990, on behalf of the people of Burma, have sent a letter of protest to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council, calling for:-

- (1) Immediate release of U Tin Oo, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and all others who were arrested at the site of the crisis.
- (2) Unconditional release of U Aung Shwe, Chairman and other Central Executive members of NLD who are kept under house arrest since May 31, 2003.
- (3) Reopening of all NLD offices sealed by the government and resuming of legal political party functions.
- (4) Official independent investigation and statement of facts regarding the events including the number of deaths, wounded, missing and detained persons.
- (5) Compliance and implementation of the Resolutions and Recommendations of the General Assembly, the Security Council and other Agencies of the United Nations.

The above demands are made for the people of Burma as well as for the whole community of the world. We firmly believe that the current impasse in this country is not only a disgrace to the Nation but is also becoming a threat to the peace and security of the whole region.

Attached herewith a copy of the abovementioned letter in Burmese version with a humble request that the case should be brought to the notice of the Security Council for necessary action.

Yours sincerely,

Elected Representatives

The List of Undersigned Parliamentary Members of 1990 General Election (70 names follow)

End Text.
Martinez